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LET US FIGHT AGAINST JAPANESE MILITARISM

Twenty years have passed since the surrender of the Japanese militarists.

Many nations in Asia had undergone untold calamities, misfortunes and sufferings owing to the aggression and plunder perpetrated by the Japanese militarists.

With the termination of the Second World War, the peoples of Asia and progressive people of the whole world sincerely hoped that in Japan militarism would be liquidated once and for all and democratization realized so that peace and security would be guaranteed in Asia.

Owing to the machinations of U.S. imperialism and Japanese reaction, however, the situation in Japan has been developing completely at variance with the desire of the peoples.

Japanese militarism has raised its head again under the patronage of U.S. imperialism. It is dreaming of having the once bankrupt "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" restored in return for its service to the U.S. imperialists' aggression in Asia.

This constitutes a menace to the security of the peoples of Asia and the world.

The history of crimes committed by the Japanese militarists is still fresh in the memory of the people.

The dangerous developments in Japan should not be overlooked; the history of calamity should not be allowed to repeat itself.

I. History Accuses

The modern history of Japanese imperialism is a history of unbridled exploitation and fascist repression of the people at home, a history of unending wars of aggression upon and brigandish plunder of other nations.

Tennoism and semi-feudal landlordism, and the privileged big capital which was integrated with the two, led Japan from one war to another.

Japan, which embarked upon capitalist development through the "Meiji Restoration" in 1868, assumed a military and semi-feudal character from the beginning. The bourgeois reforms in Japan were carried out mainly by a section of feudal lords and *samurai*, riding the tide of the struggle of the people against feudal oppression. Hence, the bourgeois reforms could not be carried through to the end, but ended halfway.

Japan embarked upon capitalist development later than the Western capitalist powers. By then the division of the colonies on the globe had been almost completed.

Armed conflict was the only way left for Japan to take so as to seize colonies like Western capitalist powers. This led Japanese capitalism to resort chiefly to war of aggression.

The backwardness and the specific military, semi-feudal features of Japanese capitalism imparted a most brigandish, most barbarous character to Japanese capitalism.

Japan consistently pursued aggression and plunder of her weak neighbours. Fawning upon the Western powers, it satisfied its expansionist ambition with their backing. While kotowing to and serving big imperialist powers, Japanese militarism always bullied and invaded small countries.

Lenin once pointed out that there was the possibility of Japan plundering the Eastern, Asian countries, but that she could not have any independent, financial and military power without the support of other countries.

Japan's financial basis was very weak in the early period of her capitalist development. Her fiscal budget was barely around 300 million yen and her gold reserves 100 million yen. In her economic position, Japan could hardly meet a half of the war expenditure. She could not make war without assistance from the West in military equipment either.

Japanese militarists made good such weak points with the support and patronage of the Western powers.

With the loan and military aid from the U.S.-British imperialists, the Japanese militarists set about aggression upon Korea seriously in 1875, and in 1910 reduced Korea to their exclusive colony by forcing the "annexation treaty" upon her. Japanese imperialism turned Korea into a strategic point, a supply base, for aggression upon the Asian Continent.

With the support of the U.S.-British imperialists and other Western powers, the Japanese militarists launched the China-Japan War (1894-1895). Emerging victorious in the war, Japan grabbed 360 million yen as war reparations and seized the Chinese territories of Taiwan, Penghu Islands, etc.

With the aid of the U.S.-British imperialists, the Japanese militarists provoked the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905). As a result of the war, Japan came into possession of southern Sakhalin and Liaotung Peninsula.

In the armed intervention designed to strangle the Soviet Union, the first socialist state in the world, too, the Japanese imperialists acted as a shock-brigade with the support of the U.S.-British imperialists.

In 1918, the Japanese imperialists dispatched 70,000 odd troops to Siberia and Sakhalin, and disbursed 1,000 million yen of military expenditure.

Japanese imperialism repeatedly launched attacks on the Soviet Union, on Lake Hassan in 1938 and in the Khalkhingol area in 1939.

But the aggressive actions of the Japanese imperialists against the Soviet Union all ended in failure.

In 1931 they invaded China and seized Manchuria, encouraged by the United States and Britain. Thus Manchuria was added to Japan's colonies: Korea, Taiwan and southern Sakhalin. Japanese imperialism emerged as a big colonial power.

The more corpulent imperialism becomes, the more profit it tries to squeeze and the more land it covets. This is in the nature of imperialism.

Japanese imperialism launched all-out armed invasion against China in 1937.

In the early days of the China-Japan war, too, the U.S.-British imperialists gave a helping hand to the Japanese militarists in their aggressive moves.

The Japanese militarists made frantic efforts to dominate the whole of China and Asia.

Such insatiable aggressive ambition on the part of Japanese imperialism was bound to come into frontal collision with U.S.-British imperialism which the former had been courting favour with thus far.

However, Japanese imperialism was as yet unable to go to war against these countries single-handed. Hence its compact with fascist Germany and Italy. In 1936 the Japanese imperialists concluded with Nazi Germany an "Anti-Communist Pact" directed against the Soviet Union. In 1937, Italy adhered to this pact, thus making it a triple "Anti-Communist Pact" among Japan, Germany and Italy. And on this basis, Japan concluded the tripartite military alliance with fascist Germany and Italy in 1940 with the aim of jointly invading the Soviet Union and also of opposing the United States and Britain and re-dividing the world.

Thus Japanese imperialism provoked the Pacific War in 1941.

In the course of the war, the Japanese imperialists occupied Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Malaya, Burma, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, etc., and even threatened India, New Zealand and Australia. Their design was to dominate and lord it over all Asian countries, under the slogan of the "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere".

As one war followed another, monopoly capital grew fatter and fatter at the expense of the people. The predatory wars literally showered gold on the Japanese monopolies. The capital of four big *zaibatsu* in Japan amounted to 850 million yen, all told, in the 1930's, then it swelled to 3,800 million yen by the end of the Pacific War.

The aggressive, predatory wars the Japanese militarists have waged against other countries since the invasion of Taiwan in 1874 following the "Meiji Restoration" count over ten. By the time of the Pacific War the Japanese militarists had reduced 11 countries and areas to their colonies or semi-colonies.

The Japanese militarists ruled their colonies and semi-colonies and occupied areas by unheard-of atrocious methods which combined all up-to-date technical inventions with purely Asiatic torture, as Lenin said.

"Koreans must either obey the Japanese law or die"— such was the Japanese militarist way of governing Korea.

The Japanese imperialists massacred countless innocent people in Korea by brutal methods. They even tried to deny the Koreans their mother tongue and Korean names and thereby totally obliterate the

Koreans as a nation.

Kill all, burn all and loot all—this was their method of dominating the Chinese people. During the China-Japan war alone, the Japanese imperialists cruelly massacred 12 million Chinese people and laid waste 10,000 or more towns and villages in China.

During the Pacific War, the Japanese imperialists committed innumerable massacres in all the countries in Southeast Asia. Over 2 million in Vietnam, 2 million in Indonesia and 1.1 million in the Philippines lost their lives.

The Japanese imperialists robbed at will the countries under their occupation of their natural resources and a fabulous amount of wealth.

A rough estimate puts the wealth looted by the Japanese militarists in Korea at several hundreds of thousands of million *won* in terms of the currency of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; it looted over 50,000 million dollars from China during the China-Japan war and 500,000 million yen, in terms of the then Japanese currency, from Southeast Asia during the Pacific War.

But even by such fiendish atrocities and brigandish plunder the Japanese imperialists could not subdue the peoples or reverse the unfavourable tide of war on the battle front. Their rampage and expansion of aggression by no means signified the might of Japanese militarism. On the contrary, it was the last-ditch desperation of moribund imperialism.

The farther Japanese militarism extended the war of aggression and stepped up colonial plunder, the faster it expedited self-destruction.

The Japanese army sustained crushing blows on all fronts.

Despite the repeated setbacks, the Japanese militarists, blinded by aggression and plunder, continued to pour millions of troops and enormous military equipment into the front. But this was of no help for the aggressors; it only brought them even more disastrous results.

The one million strong Kwantung army, Japan's much vaunted "crack army," was routed in a day in face of the onrushing Soviet Army.

The Japanese army which they boasted of as "invincible imperial army" fell apart, its spine broken.

The Japanese militarists were incapacitated from continuing the war.

What is more, the Japanese imperialists were confronted with the powerful anti-Japanese, national-liberation struggles in Korea and China. In all the occupied areas of Southeast Asia, without exception, the resistance movements were being waged vigorously against Japanese militarism. This was an irretrievable, telling blow to the Japanese imperialist aggressors who were on the point of ruin.

The Japanese imperialists were driven to a dead end in all parts of Asia where they had stretched their tentacles of aggression, and their domination collapsed hopelessly.

Within Japan proper, too, which was converted into a military prison, the discontent of the masses of the people with the ruling circles grew and the anti-war movement gained in strength. The war economy was in a complete mess, contradictions sharpened within the ruling circles which were locked in dirty scramble for more profit.

The Japanese imperialists tried to keep in the dark the total defeat on the front and continuously drive the people out to war, to death, but they could not escape the debacle.

The megalomania of the Japanese militarists who dreamed of turning the whole of Asia, then the whole world, into a Japanese empire under the slogan of the so-called "the-whole-world-one-family-principle" ended up with the unconditional surrender in face of the anti-fascist people's forces.

Japanese militarism appeared on the stage of history by waging an aggressive war and met its eventual ruin in it. It is a law of development of history that aggression and predatory war lead to an inevitable defeat and ruin in the long run.

History has proved that the Japanese militarist is the agent of Western imperialism in Asia, the barefaced robber engaged in murder and plunder, the provoker of war and the strangulator of the national-liberation movement.

Mankind has also shown that it never gives its forgiveness to such criminals.

2. Japanese Militarism Revived under the Wings of U.S. Imperialism

Militarism is an important characteristic of the development of imperialism. At the stage of imperialism, militarism develops in an all-round way, embracing all domains of social life. This is a general tendency in the imperialist countries.

In pursuance of maximum profit the monopoly capitalist class steps up the militarization of the country. Scramble for colonies and rivalry for world domination among the imperialist powers grow fierce. They seek a solution to this rivalry by appealing to force. The imperialists also actively come out against the socialist camp, the international communist and working-class movement and the national-liberation movement.

Thus, the imperialist powers steadily increase armaments, reinforce armed forces and speed up the militarization of economy in preparation for aggression and war. They fascistize the state machine and intensify the suppression of people. In the field of ideology they openly whip up racism and chauvinism and carry on war propaganda in a big way.

Collusion between financial magnates and the military becomes closer. Through the medium of militarism the monopoly capitalist class intensifies the suppression and exploitation of the masses of the people internally and invades and plunders other nations externally. Militarism is a tool for monopoly capital's class domination.

Through the whole period of modern history militarism in Japan made typical development.

Japanese militarism has been most chauvinistic, aggressive, warlike, tyrannical and rapacious.

The military formed a big political force in state life. They seized political power and dictated the home and foreign policies of the government. This plunged the country into unending aggression and war.

The policies of aggression and war led the Japanese militarists to their defeat in the end.

The victory of the anti-fascist, democratic forces with the Soviet Union in the van in the Second World War opened up a road for the liquidation of militarism and the development of Japan into a peace-loving democratic country.

To do away with militarism, its social root must be removed and all the machinery for militarization be smashed, first of all. Otherwise, it will come back to life even if it is dealt a heavy blow for the time being.

The social mainstay of Japanese militarism before the Second World War was Tenno absolutism, monopoly capitalism and semi-feudal landlordism in the countryside.

If militarism was to be rooted out in Japan after the surrender of Japanese imperialism, this social mainstay should have been eliminated.

The Postdam Declaration and other international agreements envisaged the complete disarming of the Japanese army, punishment of war criminals, liquidation of militarist organizations and forces, break-up of monopolies, prohibition of war industry, democratization in all spheres of life—political, economic, cultural and social—and establishment of a democratic government in accordance with the free will of the people.

Had these international agreements been translated into practice, Japan would have been able to develop into a peace-loving democratic country conforming to the will of the people.

Reality, however, has turned out to be quite the opposite. From the first day of their occupation of Japan the U.S. imperialists made a scrap paper of the international agreements providing for demilitarizing Japan.

The U.S. imperialists attached particular importance to Japan in the implementation of their plan for aggression on Asia. They put importance, in the first place, on the strategic position and manpower and material resources of Japan. They calculated to turn Japan into a military base and revive the militarist forces to foster them as a shock-brigade against the socialist camp and the national-liberation movement.

Driven into a tight corner by their defeat in the war, the Japanese militarists, on their part, needed the patronage of U.S. imperialism. They hoped to escape, under the wings of U.S. imperialism, the punishment deserving them for their past crimes, maintain their political foothold and make a comeback to restore their old colonial empire.

Proceeding each from their own calculation, the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese ruling circles, who once waged a bloody fight against each other for markets and the sphere of influence, formed new, master-servant relations and entered into collusion.

The abolition of Tennoism is of prime importance for the liquidation of Japanese militarism. The emperor was the No. 1 war criminal in Japan. But the U.S. imperialists excluded him from the international tribunal of war criminals.

Though the new Constitution was instituted, the emperor remained in throne as before.

The "break-up" of *zaibatsu*, the hotbed of militarism, was also carried out perfunctorily. This only weakened its capacity for competition with U.S. monopoly capital and paved a favourable way for the penetration of U.S. capital.

Though an "agrarian reform" was carried out, the position of reaction in the countryside was not demolished.

The backbone of the army was kept in various covert forms—police, coastal police and so forth. The bureaucratic ruling machinery was also left intact. A majority of the war criminals and advocates of militarism were excluded from trial or expulsion from public office.

The Japanese militarist forces were not hit hard after the surrender.

They secured their foothold under the aegis of U.S. imperialism.

While protecting the reactionary forces and providing soil for the revival of militarism, the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese reactionary ruling quarters cooked up various evil laws and ruthlessly suppressed the Japan Communist Party and other democratic forces.

All the measures taken by the U.S. imperialists in Japan after the war were, in the last analysis, for the preservation of the social foothold of militarism and the militarist apparatuses and for the establishment of U.S. domination over Japan. In this way, Japanese militarism was revived under the wings of U.S. imperialism.

The Korean war provoked by the U.S. imperialists marked an important turning point in the rejuvenation of Japanese monopoly capital and the revival of Japanese militarism.

During the Korean war the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese ruling circles unilaterally concluded the separate San Francisco Peace Treaty and the "U.S.-Japan Security Pact to speed up militarization.

These pacts legalized the U.S. army's occupation of Japan and her conversion into a military base and opened up the way for Japan's rearmament and participation in aggressive military alliance under the name of "separate or collective defence." This completely contrav-

ened the international agreements relating to Japan.

With the Korean war and the conclusion of the separate San Francisco Peace Treaty as an occasion, the U.S. imperialists pushed ahead with the remilitarization of Japan in an open way, no more in a surreptitious way as before.

An army was eventually founded under the label of "police reserves" and "coast guards."

The reorganized Japanese army was equipped with U.S.-type military technique and U.S.-made weapons under the direction of the U.S. army.

At the same time, Japan was converted into a base of the U.S. imperialists for carrying out the Korean war. U.S. airplanes which bombed Korea took off from bases in Japan, and the U.S. fleet conducted operations with Japanese ports as its base. The Japanese army and naval vessels were directly mobilized into the Korean war to aid the U.S. army units. This indicates that Japanese militarism took an important part in the U.S. imperialists' aggression in Asia already from that time.

Japanese monopoly capital which began to be rejuvenated by the U.S. imperialists had a big boom during the Korean war.

During the Korean war the Japanese monopolies, favoured by "special orders" worth 2,200 million dollars from the U.S. army, increased industrial production as much as 70 per cent. The Japanese monopoly capitalists called this a "divine wind."

It might be recalled that thriving through war and then declining through war—such are the footmarks of Japanese monopoly capital. Through each war waged at an interval of less than ten years on an average, it fattened. By participating in the U.S. imperialists' aggressive war in Korea it again fattened and grew on the dollars stained with the blood of our people.

The conclusion of the new "security" pact between the United States and Japan marked another new stage in the revival of Japanese militarism.

Through the new "security" pact of 1960 the U.S. imperialists made it possible to put added spurs to the rearmament of Japan and mobilize the Japanese army directly for their aggression in Asia under the name of "joint defence." This pact reinforced the U.S.-Japan military alliance for invading socialist countries and paved the way for the nuclear armament of Japanese militarism. This was aimed at further intensifying the oppression of the Japanese people by the U.S. and Japanese reactionary ruling quarters.

Since the conclusion of the new "security" pact the remilitarization of Japan has been speedily expedited. At present Japan keeps in the military domain an army over 270,000 strong, various naval vessels with a tonnage of 150,000 including 50 escort boats and ten submarines and over 1,400 aircraft in the name of the "Self-Defence Forces." Recently the Japanese ruling circles equipped these forces with rockets and are stepping up their nuclear arming.

The Japanese army, is being brought up into a crack army to be reorganized at any time into huge army units hundreds of thousands or millions strong.

The army units of all services are conducting "mountain war" exercises, "exercises for cold weather endurance," and "jungle war" exercises, taking Korea, China, the Soviet Union and Southeast Asia for the possible battle areas.

The Japanese militarists offered not only Okinawa but Japan proper to the United States as nuclear bases and are trying to turn their whole territory into a "arsenal of Asia." Japan is covered with a network of more than 200 U.S. ground, naval and air bases.

The revived militarist forces of Japan are fanning militarist and revanchist ideas, employing various media.

The emperor is again being idolized.

The state rituals of Tenno absolutism are being resumed. The reactionary ruling circles are openly clamouring for enforcing the fascist-like, so-called Showa Restoration in 1968 with the centenary of the Meiji Restoration as an occasion.

Meanwhile, "memorial towers" and "monuments of loyalty" dedicated to those who fell in aggression and plunder are being erected and a "memorial service" held every year for them. The men and officers of the Japanese "Self-Defence Forces" are being instilled with the militarist idea of "loyally serving the emperor at the cost of their lives" following the example of "loyal subjects and illustrious generals."

The militarists are circulating the preposterous assertion that all the wars of aggression perpetrated by Japan in the past were "wars of liberation in essence" because they were "sacred wars which repulsed the Western forces' march to the East."

They also declared: "As Japan dumped a large amount of funds into Korea, Taiwan and Manchuria, it is high time we actively followed the example of our predecessors and forefathers." According to this gangster logic, the Japanese militarists are openly calling for launching aggression again along the past line.

The Japanese ruling circles burning with ambitions for aggression are speeding up the establishment of a fascist system at home.

They are lending more reactionary character to the state apparatuses and expanding the machinery for the suppression of people. Various evil laws are being enacted in an attempt to stamp out the democratic rights of the people and block the activities of democratic political parties and public organizations. They are working to revise the Constitution, enforce a conscription system, legalize the nuclear armament of the Japanese army and its dispatch abroad and establish a system of war-time emergency mobilization.

Goings-on in Japan show that the process of militarization is being sped up in all political, economic, military and socio-ideological fields.

The U.S. imperialists and the Japanese ruling circles are trying to justify all their criminal acts on the plea of defence from "Communist menace."

The Japanese ruling circles are raving that "Japan is standing on the forefront of the struggle against Communism." People clearly remember that, unleashing the Second World War, Hitler Germany, fascist Italy and militarist Japan all took up the slogan of "anti-Communism." When they occupied Manchuria, the Japanese militarists blared that this was "for building a wall against the threat of Communism in the Far East."

Times have changed, but the chieftains of aggression are blowing the same old bugle. Anti-communist racket of the imperialists is a trite farce aimed at covering up their machinations of aggression and war. Such anti-Communist raw fell flat long ago. No one on earth would believe such nonsense.

The revived Japanese militarism has specific features distinct from the past militarism. It is U.S. imperialism that revived Japanese militarism. Japanese militarism is subordinated to and is in league with U.S. imperialism. Japanese militarism is serving the interests of U.S. imperialism and Japanese monopoly capital.

Dependence on U.S. imperialism and aggressiveness in its service for Japanese monopoly capital—this dual character is the main feature of the revived Japanese militarism.

Japanese militarism is more crafty and more dangerous because it is linked with U.S. imperialism. Now it is stepping onto the political arena as the force directly shaping the state policy, no longer content with merely having a say in politics.

The policy of militarization now pursued by the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese ruling circles does not spell in the least the strengthening of the position of Japanese monopoly capital.

On the contrary, it further weakens and renders unstable the position of monopoly capitalism.

Militarism is pregnant with its own ruin.

"The more the bourgeoisie becomes entangled in its war combinations, the more frequently it resorts to terroristic methods in its fight against the working class and the labouring peasantry, the more rapidly will the revolutionary crisis develop." (Stalin)

Militarism is a concentric expression of the degenerate and parasitic character of monopoly capitalism.

The armaments expansion and the militarization of the economy entail the squandering of a colossal amount of wealth and labour for non-productive consumption. The one-sided development of war industry leads to growing anarchy of production and all the more deep-going economic crisis.

This drives the broad masses of working people into the depth of privation and lack of all rights, thereby increasing their discontent and resistance. As a result, the contradictions of monopoly capitalism are inevitably aggravated.

In the final analysis, the intensified militarist policy hastens the doom of the decaying, moribund imperialism.

3. Japanese Militarism Has Again Embarked upon The Path of Aggression

Today Japanese militarism, under the wings of U.S. imperialism, is embarking upon aggression step by step.

Imperialism cannot exist without aggression and plunder of other nations. At present, monopoly capitalism in Japan has reached the stage where it cannot develop any more without expanding its markets abroad. In 1964, Japanese industry based on the revived monopolies had reached a level of production more than 5 times higher than in prewar years 1934-36.

Production and capital have gone through a high degree of agglomeration and concentration. Markets are unable to keep pace with production which monopoly capital is expanding anarchically in pursuance of maximum profit.

Japan is faced with a serious crisis of over-production, and such phenomena as slump and decline in production are observed in all domains of industry with the exception of certain strategic industries.

These contradictions have become all the more serious under the post-war conditions in which Japanese monopoly capital is left without colonies. In the past, it was able to acquire immense resources of raw materials and vast markets through aggressive war and colonial plunder. Today, however, there is no way out of the acute shortage of raw materials and marketing difficulties.

The Japanese ruling circles are seeking to resolve these contradictions by means of aggression abroad.

At the same time, their undisguised policy of aggression is linked with the attempt of the U.S. imperialists to utilize the Japanese militarist forces in maintaining their tottering colonial foothold in Asia and, in particular, to recover from their setbacks in the war of aggression in Vietnam.

The more the U.S. imperialists suffer setbacks in their policy of aggression in Asia, the greater importance they attach to the role of Japan.

The keynote of Asian strategy of U.S. imperialism is to blockade and overthrow the socialist countries in

Asia, suppress the national-liberation movement and maintain and expand the colonial system. In order to put this strategic plan into practice, the U.S. imperialists are scheming to frame up an anti-Communist front embracing in it as many satellite countries and puppets as they can. The U.S. imperialists are planning to assign the key role to Japanese militarism in this bloc and use it as a shock-brigade.

The foreign policy of Japan serves the implementation of the strategic plan of U.S. imperialism in Asia. This is why the Japanese government is hostile to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, lends a hand in the scheme to create "two Chinas" and pursues a hostile policy towards the Democratic Republic of Vietnam.

At the same time, it is manoeuvring to obstruct the sovereignty and independence of the new-born independent countries and oppose the national-liberation struggle.

Formation of military blocs and bilateral alliances is an important factor in carrying out the imperialist policy of aggression.

Through these military blocs and bilateral alliances the imperialists control the member nations politically, economically and militarily, and dragoon them in aggression on other countries.

Japanese militarism, together with U.S. imperialism, is actively working for the formation of various military alliances in Asia.

A military alliance of U.S. imperialism and Japanese militarism has already come into being through the "security" pact.

Japan has thus become a base for U.S. imperialist aggression, national oppression and reaction in Asia.

Towards the close of last year, the Japanese government, acting on the plan of U.S. imperialism, rammed the aggressive "Japan-ROK Treaty" through the Diet in an unlawful manner by resorting to a highhanded, fascist measure, and hastily exchanged the instruments of ratification with the puppet clique in South Korea. This is not only a political and economic compact but, in essence, a military compact between the reactionary ruling circles of Japan and the Pak Jung Hi clique.

Through the "ROK-Japan Treaty" the Japanese ruling circles are seeking to obstruct the unification of Korea and, in the name of the United Nations, to justify the dispatch of Japanese troops to South Korea.

The Japanese militarists, under the baton of U.S. imperialism, busy working to frame up the "Northeast Asia military alliance" embracing Japan, South Korea, Taiwan, etc. Furthermore, they are going to implement the U.S. imperialists' strategic plan for forming a single anti-Communist military bloc in Asia by drawing in even South Vietnam, the Philippines, Thailand, Malaysia, Australia and New Zealand.

It is nobody's secret that this plan is underlain by the unscrupulous design of Japanese militarism to restore the bankrupt "Greater East Asia Co-prosperity Sphere" and by the aggressive intention of U.S. imperialism to dominate the world.

The Japanese militarists are out to gratify their expansionist ambition in return for their service to U.S. imperialism in its aggression in Asia.

They have already worked out concrete plans for Asian aggression in co-operation with U.S. imperialism. In June 1963 the general staff of the Japanese army drew up the aggressive war plans against Korea and other socialist countries.

They are the "Operation Three Arrows" plan of the Japanese Defence Agency which was disclosed at the Japanese Diet last spring and the "Operation Flying Dragon" plan which was exposed later.

The "Operation Three Arrows" plan was drawn up on the assumption of their provocation of a war in Korea.

The Japanese rulers are contemplating to establish, with the outbreak of the war, a fascist, national general mobilization system throughout the country, to control all materials, prices, finance, transport, speech and the press and to enforce military and labour conscription. It is also envisaged that the Japanese army, jointly with the U.S. army, bomb Korea, China and the Soviet Union and establish naval blockade and stage landing operations against them.

The "Operation Flying Dragon" plan drafted on the basis of the "Operation Three Arrows" plan provides for the dispatch of Japanese troops to South Korea and Okinawa in preparation for an intrusion into the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and China by conducting a joint operation with the U.S. army.

When the "Operation Three Arrows" plan was revealed, Japanese Prime Minister Sato blabbed: "It is natural that such a study is being made." Later, the Defence Agency director openly declared that "the study of the Operation Three Arrows is necessary and so it will be continued."

Thus it follows that this aggressive plan is by no means a plan for mere study, but a plan for enforcement.

The Japanese militarists are now actually joining the U.S. imperialists in the aggressive war in Vietnam. Japanese Prime Minister Sato is helping U.S. imperialism in every way, supporting with particular zest its aggression in Vietnam as "a just act."

Japan has now turned into a base of the U.S. forces for their aggression on Vietnam. The U.S. Seventh Fleet which is engaged in acts of war in the coastal waters of Vietnam is using Yokosuka as its base and the U.S. bombers which are carrying on indiscriminate bombing of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam also have their bases in Japan.

Many bases of the U.S. forces in Okinawa and Japan proper are directly serving the U.S. aggression against Vietnam.

Japan is continuously sending enormous quantities of weapons and munitions for the aggressive war in South Vietnam. More, the Japanese rulers are helping the U.S. troops in landing operations by sending their seamen.

The Japanese monopoly capitalists are calculating to make a fortune just as they did during the Korean war, and to secure a privileged position in Southeast Asia through the aggressive war against the Vietnamese people. They openly declare today that "the Vietnam war is the second divine wind dispelling the current recession in Japan."

To all intents and purposes, the Japanese militarists are taking part in the U.S. imperialists' aggressive war in Vietnam more actively than any SEATO member nation or any European ally of the United States.

"Operation Three Arrows" and "Operation Flying Dragon" plans worked out by the Japanese militarists, the "Japan-ROK Treaty" and the U.S. imperialists' aggressive war in Vietnam—all these are component parts of the aggressive plan of the U.S. imperialists against Asia, which are closely interlinked with one another.

The Japanese militarists are today acting as the most faithful helpers of the U.S. imperialists in suppressing the national-liberation movement in the colonies and in opposing the countries of the socialist camp.

The Japanese ruling circles can never conceal this dastardly role and criminal acts of theirs.

The Japanese ruling circles should know in what dangerous position they are placing themselves by opposing the socialist camp, opposing the national-liberation movement and opposing the nationalist independent states in Asia and Africa.

In implementing their aggressive plan, the Japanese militarists are employing the crafty and camouflaged neo-colonialist methods along with the old methods which have already been fully laid bare. While actively joining hands with the U.S. imperialists in the implementation of the U.S. policies of aggression and war, they are stepping up economic intrusion into other countries under the cloak of "aid," "joint development" and "economic co-operation."

This is one of the concrete forms of the neo-colonialist policy. The "aid," "joint development" and "economic co-operation" offered by the imperialists are nothing but the forcible sale of surplus commodities and export of surplus capital.

They are also a means of plunder, and tools for the political and economic enslavement of the recipient countries.

"Outwardly the imperialist countries stand for 'friendship' and 'solidarity' among themselves, but they commit subversive acts against each other behind the scenes; they advocate 'co-operation' and 'aid,' but, in reality, they utilize them as shields to subordinate other countries politically and economically." (Kim Il Sung)

Export of capital, which holds an important place in the imperialist economic aggression generally, takes two forms—export of industrial capital and export of loan capital.

Today Japanese militarism is increasing the export of state capital in the form of war reparations, "aid," credit, export on deferred payment.

The chief objects of overseas expansion and aggression of the Japanese militarists are Asian, African and Latin-American countries. They put emphasis, above all, on Southeast Asia. By making wholesale penetration into the Asian region, the Japanese militarists are scheming to create their own sphere of influence while reinforcing the U.S. policy of aggression against Asia.

The Japanese ruling circles are cunningly using the reparations they are paying for the plunder and atrocities perpetrated by the Japanese aggressor troops during the Second World War as a main instrument for their economic penetration into the Southeast Asian countries.

The payment of indemnities is a special form of export of state capital by the Japanese militarists.

Since the conclusion of the reparations agreements with Asian countries, Japan's commodity export to this area has increased by 47 per cent, ranking second in the capitalist world.

Japan is stepping up economic expansion especially in South Korea and Taiwan.

On the basis of the "Japan-ROK Treaty," the Japanese government is planning to pour 800 million dollars into South Korea under the name of "property claims fund," "economic co-operation" and so forth, in conspiracy with the puppet clique in South Korea. Monopoly *zaibatsu* such as Mitsubishi, Mitsui and Sumitomo, which exploited and plundered the Korean people in the past, are again forcing their way into South Korea and engaging in extraterritorial business activities. The Japanese ruling circles are out to reduce South Korea's economy to an appendage of the Japanese economy.

They decided upon granting a credit of 150 million dollars to the Chiang Kai-shek clique on Taiwan in 1965. Some time ago, the Japanese government decided to render "emergency aid" amounting to 400 million dollars every year to the puppets in South Vietnam, Laos and South Korea. It even plans to set up a "common market of Japan, South Korea and Taiwan" and form a "yen bloc" embracing Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand.

The Japanese government is coming out for neo-colonialist exploitation singly as well as collectively with the U.S. imperialists and other Western imperialist powers.

This is borne out by its zealous support to Johnson's "Aid Plan for Development of Southeast Asia," which was mapped out to cover up the aggressive policy of the U.S. imperialists, and by its attempt to take the leadership in the "Asian Development Bank" to be set up for exploiting the Asian people under the U.N. signboard.

It is disposing of its stockpiles in African and Latin-American countries mainly through the form of "aid," export on deferred payment, yen credit and so on.

Japan's total export of capital amounted to 2,500 million dollars as of the end of 1964. Capital invested abroad earns the Japanese monopolies several times as much profit as at home.

Taking advantage of the economic difficulties and handicaps of Asian, African and Latin-American countries, Japanese monopoly capital has of late penetrated deeper into their economy by stepping

up, particularly, the export of enterprises, acquisition of real estates, investment in the development of underground resources and technical "co-operation."

Japanese monopoly capital aims at obstructing the construction of an independent national economy in the newly independent countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

If foreign monopoly capital makes inroads into the economy of the countries which have gained political independence, these countries, for all their abundant manpower and material resources, will be unable to overcome the backwardness and lopsidedness of the economy or consolidate their political independence. The Japanese militarists are thus attempting to make political and economic gains at the expense of the economically underdeveloped countries and peoples.

Besides economic infiltration, the Japanese ruling circles are also penetrating into the religious, ideological and cultural domains in Asian and African countries, passing themselves off as "friends."

Here they seek to paralyse the idea of national identity and the revolutionary will of the peoples of these countries, dampen their anti-imperialist spirits and undermine friendship and solidarity among these countries by creating illusions about Japanese imperialism and disseminating corrupt and degenerate ideological venom. Their ultimate aim is to expand markets for Japanese commodities and pave the way for the penetration of Japanese monopoly capital.

Donning Asian garments, the Japanese militarists are helping U.S. imperialism most faithfully in its aggression and are coming to the fore as aggressors themselves.

This, however, inevitably leads to the further sharpening of national contradictions between the Japanese militarists and the peoples of other countries.

The more the Japanese militarists intensify aggression, the stronger will be the resistance of the peoples of other countries against them.

The advance of the Japanese militarists abroad is also deepening the contradictions among the imperialist powers who are engrossed in the expansion of their spheres of influence.

The aggressive policy of the Japanese government can never save monopoly capitalism from ruin.

4. Struggle against Japanese Militarism Is Part of the Struggle Against U.S. Imperialism

Struggle against Japanese militarism is linked with the struggle against U.S. imperialism. Because it is precisely U.S. imperialism which has revived Japanese militarism and is patronizing it.

U.S. imperialism is the biggest international exploiter, the bulwark of modern colonialism, the main force of aggression and war, the ringleader of world reaction and the international gendarme. This conclusion made in the Statement of the Meeting of Representatives of the Communist and Workers' Parties retains full validity in the reality of today.

Of course, we can not ignore the fact that certain changes have taken place in recent years in the correlation of forces among the imperialist powers. The position of the United States has relatively weakened, whereas that of Britain, France, West Germany, Japan and Italy strengthened. This trend will continue in the future.

However, the position of the United States is still predominant within the imperialist camp. U.S. imperialism is overpowering other imperialist countries economically and militarily. American industry holds nearly half of the total value of industrial output in the capitalist world.

The United States is keeping a standing army 1.5 times as big as that of Britain, France, Italy, West Germany and Japan put together. In military equipment, too, the United States leads other capitalist countries. Such superiority has made it possible for U.S. imperialism to become the chieftain of world imperialism.

Today the United States is the most aggressive of all imperialist countries. It is taking the lead in the aggressive activities against the socialist states and peace-loving countries, is undermining peace in all parts of the world and threatening the security of the peoples.

U.S. imperialism is maintaining over 2,300 military bases abroad with 1,250,000 troops stationed there permanently.

Collective military alignments such as NATO, CENTO, SEATO and ANZUS and bilateral military alliances have been formed by the U.S. imperialists.

The U.S. imperialists are suppressing the national-liberation movement in various parts of the world and intensifying exploitation and plunder in colonies and dependencies.

Today, therefore, all the peace-loving people of the world make it their principal task to fight against the U.S. imperialists.

Reality calls for uniting all forces that can be united and consolidating the common front against U.S. imperialism.

The peoples of the countries of the socialist camp, Asian, African and Latin-American peoples and all peace-loving peoples of the world must unite under the banner of the anti-imperialist struggle, strike at U.S. imperialism everywhere and bind it hand and foot. Only by so doing can the U.S. imperialists' policies of aggression and war be frustrated and world peace safeguarded.

To cringe at the nuclear blackmail of the U.S. imperialists and give up the fight against them amounts to stepping back from the world revolution and doing grave harm to the peace movement.

We must not entertain any illusion about U.S. imperialism or give in before its aggressive policy, but must take a sober attitude.

Today the No. 1 target of struggle of the world's people is U.S. imperialism in every sense. But this by no means rules out the struggle against other imperialism.

While opposing U.S. imperialism, we must also fight other imperialism which is helping U.S. imperialism in aggression.

In particular, the struggle against Japanese and West German militarism must be intensified.

Japan and West Germany have again become the two hotbeds of war in the East and the West. Under such circumstances we must not take lightly the struggle against Japanese and West German militarism.

In respect to the danger of West German militarism and of Japanese militarism, we must not take the stand of overemphasizing one, while slighting the other. In evaluating the world situation, we should not be swayed by prejudices or lean towards any one side, either Europe or Asia.

The situation in Asia today has become very tense.

In particular, the U.S. imperialists are bent on expanding the aggressive war against the Vietnamese people. The Japanese militarists are serving U.S. imperialism in its policy of aggression against Asia. The present Asian situation has a great bearing upon the world situation as a whole.

The socialist countries and progressive peoples must turn their eyes to Asia. They should watch with heightened vigilance the moves of Japanese militarism which is actively responding to the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism, and resolutely struggle against them.

It is important to have correct views on the relations between U.S. imperialism and Japanese militarism. We should look into the U.S.-Japan relations not one-sidedly but in a comprehensive way.

There are, of course, certain contradictions between the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese rulers. The Japanese ruling circles will try to break away from the control of U.S. imperialism and recover independency as their strength relatively increases.

Contradictions between the United States and Japan may assume a serious proportion with the passage of time.

We should capitalize correctly on the conflict of interests between the U.S. imperialists and the Japanese rulers in conformity with the interests of the struggle against the policies of aggression and war and for peace. And it is important to further isolate the U.S. imperialists.

However, the U.S.-Japan contradictions should not be overrated under the present circumstances. Even if the Japanese imperialists call for independency, this does not provide us with any ground to believe that they will go so far as to form an anti-U.S. common front with the progressive forces. The move of the Japanese imperialists towards the restoration of their independency does not mean the renouncement of their reactionary and aggressive nature. Despite the contradictions between them, the relations between U.S. and Japanese imperialism have not reached such a point as to cause a conflict. We should not place too much hope in the Japanese rulers.

A master-servant alliance — this is the principal feature of the present U.S.-Japanese relations.

"The rapid revitalization and growth of Japanese monopoly capitalism in recent days have helped to relatively bolster the position of Japanese monopoly capital within the framework of its subordinate alliance with U.S. imperialism.

"Nevertheless, the subordinate alliance of Japanese monopoly capital with U.S. imperialism remains basically unchanged still today." (From the report by Kenji Miyamoto at the Ninth Congress of the Japan Communist Party)

The U.S. imperialists continue to occupy Japan as their base for aggression on Asia and exercise control over all the spheres of her politics, economy and military affairs. Japanese monopoly capital is subordinated to the United States in capital, raw material, technology and market. Ninety per cent of foreign capital introduced into Japan is from the United States. The amount of U.S. investments in Japan is rapidly increasing. A direct tie-up subordinating Japanese monopolies to U.S. monopolies is taking place. The enterprises jointly run by U.S. and Japanese capital numbered more than 200 as of the end of 1963.

The Japanese army is actually under the command of the U.S. army, assuming a part in the Asian strategy of U.S. imperialism. In the foreign policy, too, the Japanese ruling circles have all along pursued a policy of toeing the United States.

Both of them oppose the socialist camp, the international communist and working-class movement, the national-liberation movement and the democratic movement in Japan.

The U.S. imperialists cannot carry out their aggressive policy in Asia to the full without using Japan as their foothold and utilizing Japanese militarism. The Japanese militarists do not as yet possess enough power to compete or have a showdown with the U.S. imperialists on an equal basis. The Japanese militarists cannot realize their aggressive ambition without the backing of the U.S. imperialists.

All this bespeaks that the U.S. and Japanese imperialists see eye to eye on the basic issues, although there are frictions and contradictions between them. The community of interests keeps the U.S. and Japanese imperialists in collusion. The struggle against U.S. imperialism must not be separated from the struggle against Japanese militar-

ism. The struggle against Japanese militarism constitutes a part of the struggle against U.S. imperialism. Our failure to fight against Japanese militarism would mean to strengthen the position of U.S. imperialism.

We should not have any illusion about the Japanese ruling circles.

The Japanese ruling elements are the agents of monopoly *zaibatsu* and the defenders of militarism.

The Japanese government is faithfully serving the interests of the U.S. and Japanese reactionary forces.

This has been borne out by all the policies pursued by the successive Japanese rulers from the Yoshida Cabinet to the Ki-shi, Ikeda and Sato Cabinets.

Under the rule of reactionary forces, no radical change can be expected in the reactionary policy of the Japanese government, no matter who may hold the premiership.

Therefore, a principled struggle should be waged against the Japanese rulers. Viewpoints such as originating from the stand of national egoism or from the stand of individual and momentary interests should be rejected. We should take concerted action in the struggle against Japanese militarism and collectively thwart its aggression.

We should sharpen vigilance against the dangerous moves of the Japanese militarists and prevent them from raising their heads again, from becoming as a shock-brigade of U.S. imperialism. The Japanese militarists should be barred from reinforcing the fascist system at home, from invading and plundering other countries and from daring to play with fire.

Taking advantage of Japan's location in Asia, the Japanese militarists are trying to squeeze into the ranks of the anti-imperialist front, styling themselves as "friends" of the Asian and African peoples.

As the puppets of U.S. imperialism, they are scheming to weaken, disintegrate the anti-imperialist front from within and hamper in every way the struggle against imperialism. We should lay bare the hypocritical nature of the Japanese militarists and expose and foil every attempt of theirs to disintegrate and undermine the anti-imperialist front. We should thus isolate Japanese militarism in the international arena and frustrate its scheme to worm its way into the ranks of the anti-imperialist front.

We should give active support to the Japanese people in their struggle against Japanese militarism. Today a vigorous struggle is being waged in Japan against U.S. imperialism and its collaborator, the domestic monopoly capital. The Japanese people are carrying on on an extensive scale the struggle against the "ROK-Japan Treaty" and the scheme to form the "Northeast Asia military alliance," the struggle against the U.S. war of aggression in Vietnam, and the struggle against the conversion of Japan into a nuclear base and the preparations for a nuclear war.

These struggles are closely linked with the struggle against the exploitation and extortion by the monopolies and for better living conditions.

Standing in the forefront of the anti-U.S., anti-monopoly, democratic movement of the Japanese people is the Communist Party, the vanguard detachment of the Japanese working class. The Japan Communist Party is intensifying the struggle, rallying the people of various strata—the working class, peasants, intellectuals, youth, students, toiling petty bourgeois and medium and small entrepreneurs. The massive democratic movement of the Japanese people conduces greatly to preventing the Japanese militarists from running wild and to defending peace in Asia and the world.

The internationalist solidarity with the democratic movement of the Japanese people should be strengthened. No act is permissible which weakens the unity of the ranks of the Japanese democratic movement.

The struggle against Japanese militarism is not a task of the Japanese people alone. Japanese militarism will not only impose enormous misfortunes and sufferings upon the Japanese people but also bring great calamities to the Asian people and gravely menace world peace.

The struggle against Japanese militarism is the task of the Asian and world peace-loving peoples as well as the Japanese people. The aggressive scheme of the Japanese militarists will be shattered if all the revolutionary and peace-loving forces of the world unite and fight hand in hand with the Japanese people.

* * *

Times have changed. Ours is an era of a great turn in which imperialism is going to ruin and socialism and the national-liberation revolution are triumphing.

The might of the countries of the socialist camp is growing as the days go by. It has become an important factor deciding the trend of the development of the world situation at present. The new-born independent countries which have cast off the chains of colonial slavery are successfully building a new life under the banner of the anti-imperialist struggle. The liberation movement of the oppressed nations is mounting on a huge scale.

The U.S. imperialists are sustaining blow after blow everywhere and standing on the defensive.

The colonial system of imperialism is crumbling miserably. The day is gone forever when the imperialists could invade and oppress small nations at will.

Asia, Africa and Latin America which had fattened imperialism as its rears in the past are now turning into burial grounds for imperialism.

The U.S. imperialists are resorting to every conceivable means to stem the tide of the revolutionary movement of the people.

No frenzy of the imperialists, however, can reverse the wheel of history. Final doom of U.S.-led imperialism is inevitable.

The Japanese militarists must look straight at this stark reality.

The Sato government should know that times have changed.

"It is the immutable law of the development of history that imperialism will go to ruin and socialism will triumph. Historical facts prove that imperialism is doomed, though it looks strong outwardly." (Kim Il Sung)

The people will not tolerate the reinvasion scheme of Japanese militarism, but will pass a more stern judgement on it than before. If the Japanese militarists, forgetful of the lessons of history, dare commit aggression again, it will only bring self-destruction upon themselves.

At present the Sato government is taking the road of militarism following U.S. imperialism, which goes entirely against the national interests of Japan.

The road Japan should follow is that of independence, democracy, peace and neutrality, as maintained by the Japan Communist Party.

Japan should break away from submission to U.S. imperialism and stand up against it.

This is the road conforming to the interests of the Japanese people as well as the peoples of Asia and the world.

(Rodong Sinmun, January 10, 1966)